

Description of two new species of Muricidae (Gastropoda)  
from French Polynesia.

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**ABSTRACT.** ?*Pterynotus bouteti* is described from the Society, Tuamotu and Marquesas Archipelagos, *Dermomurex (Trialatella) trondleorum* from the Tuamotu Archipelago. Both species are compared with related taxa.

**RESUME.** Deux nouvelles espèces de Muricidae sont décrites de Polynésie Française. ?*Pterynotus bouteti* n.sp. est signalée dans les Archipels de la Société, des Tuamotu et des Marquises et fait partie d'un groupe d'espèces jusqu'à présent classées dans des genres assez disparates les uns par rapport aux autres, tels *Pterynotus*, *Marchia* et *Homalocantha*. L'ouverture fortement denticulée et le nombre variable de varices pourraient justifier le groupement de ces espèces sous un genre commun à rechercher. *Dermomurex (Trialatella) trondleorum* n.sp., décrite de l'Archipel des Tuamotu, est une des deux espèces appartenant au sous-genre *Trialatella* dans l'Océan Pacifique. La distribution géographique de l'autre espèce, *D. (T) neglecta* (Habe & Kosuge, 1971), est apparemment restreinte aux Philippines.

**KEYWORDS:** Gastropoda, Muricidae, ?*Pterynotus* n.sp. *Dermomurex* n.sp.

## INTRODUCTION.

I have recently recognized two additional undescribed muricids from the Tuamotu, Society and Marquesas Archipelagos. ?*Pterynotus bouteti* n.sp. is here included in a group of species that are variously placed in *Pterynotus*, *Marchia* or *Homalocantha* by other authors. *Dermomurex (Trialatella) trondleorum* n.sp. is the second species of the sub-genus *Trialatella* known from the Pacific Ocean ; *Dermomurex (Trialatella) neglecta* (Habe & Kosuge, 1971) is apparently restricted to the Philippine Islands.

**Genus :** *Pterynotus* Swainson, 1833. Type-species (by subsequent designation, Swainson, 1833, pl.

122): *Murex pinnatus* Swainson, 1822. The species described here is included in a group of shells with strongly denticulate aperture and variable number of varices, atypical for the genus which includes shells with 3 varices and smooth or lightly denticulate aperture. A grouping of these species under a common genus is suggested. This group of species, variously placed in *Pterynotus*, *Marchia* or *Homalocantha* includes *Pterynotus aparrii* D'Attilio & Bertsch, 1980, *Marchia bibbeyi* Radwin & D'Attilio, 1976, *Murex bipinnatus* Reeve, 1845, *Murex lienardi* Crosse, 1873, *Purpura martinetana* Röding, 1798 and *Murex tripterus* Born, 1778.

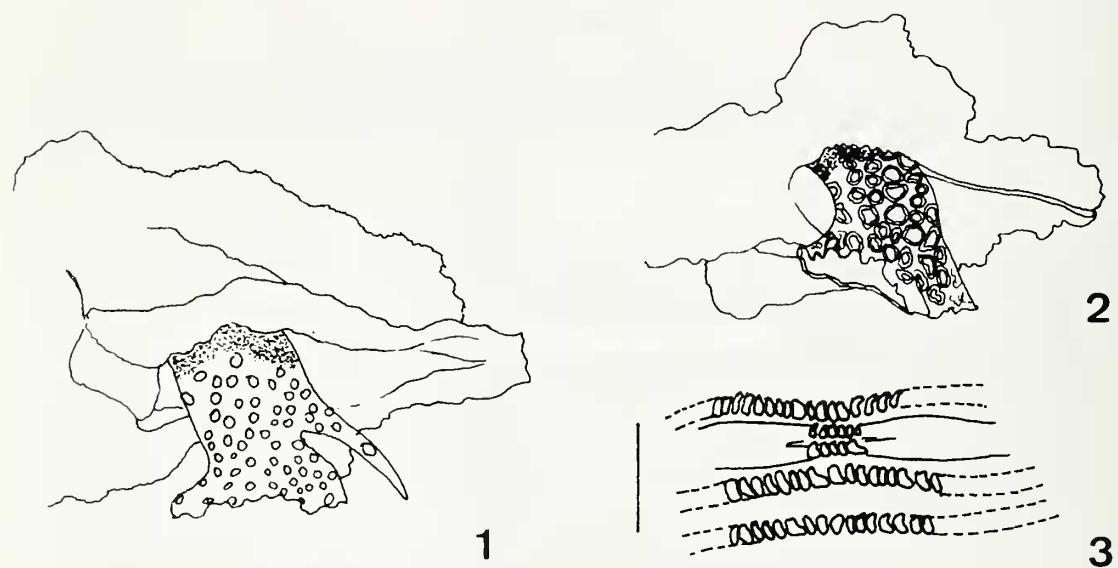


Fig. 1. *?Pterynotus tripterus* (Born, 1778). Head-foot (from colour photograph).

Fig. 2. *?Pterynotus bouteti* n.sp. Head-foot (from colour photograph).

Fig. 3. *Dermomurex (Trialatella) trondleorum* n.sp. Spiral sculpture (detail). Scale bar: 0.5 mm.

**?Pterynotus bouteti n.sp.**

Figs. 2, 4-6.

MATERIAL STUDIED: Holotype 29.2 x 15.6 mm, MNHN ; 1 paratype coll. J. TRONDLE ; 1 paratype coll. C. BESLU.

TYPE LOCALITY: Hitia, Tahiti Island, Society Archipelago, French Polynesia.

OTHER LOCALITIES: Anaa, Tuamotu Archipelago, French Polynesia (paratype J. TRONDLE) ; Marquesas (paratype C. BESLU).

**DESCRIPTION.**

Shell from 27.2 mm to 37 mm in length, stout, fusiform. Spire high, with 6 or 7 convex teleoconch whorls, protoconch unknown, suture appressed. Last whorl with 3 slightly folded varicose wings ; indented at top of siphonal canal and extending to tip. Other axial sculpture of a single heavy, elongate intervaricose rib, or two low elongate ribs. Axial ornamentation of each former whorl consisting of 8 or 9 strong ribs. Numerous minutely scabrous axial lamellae throughout the shell. Spiral sculpture on last whorl comprising 5 secondary cords on shoulder, 7 or 8 primary cords on side and 4 or 5 primary cords on siphonal canal ; some additional secondary cords at the base and on siphonal canal. Aperture small, ovate; columellar lip rim erect abapically, strongly denticulate within abapically, smooth abapically. Anal notch rather deep, delineated by strong denticle. Outer lip slightly erect, 6 strong, elongate denticles within. Siphonal canal moderately long for the species-group, open, straight.

Shell white, aperture pale purple.

Animal (from photographs taken in aquarium) light salmon-pink, covered with large white circles (i.e. ocellate) (fig. 2).

REMARKS. The most closely related species, *?Pterynotus bibbeyi* (Radwin & D'Attilio, 1976) differs in having a shell with 4 varices on the last whorl, a broader columellar lip, a relatively larger aperture, and fewer and broader spiral cords on the shoulder, while the varicose wings are more convoluted, do not extend to the tip of the siphonal canal, and are not indented as in *?P. bouteti*. A species with 3 varices on last whorl, *?Pterynotus tripterus* (Born, 1778) has a broader shell with spiral ornamentation consisting of primary and secondary cords, with

intermediate threads. Moreover, the shell of *?P. tripterus* has 3 varices from its fourth or fifth teleoconch whorl, while *?P. bouteti* has 3 varices on its last whorl only. The animal of *?P. tripterus* is greyish, covered with white blotches (fig. 1), rather than white circles as in *?P. bouteti*. *?Pterynotus lienardi* (Crosse, 1873), although belonging to the same species group, has a very different shell, and no comparison is necessary. Two other species : *?Pterynotus martiniana* (Röding, 1798) and *?Pterynotus aparrii* D'Attilio & Bertsch, 1980, have similar varicose ornamentation on the last whorl but have very different spiral sculpture and early whorl shape.

ETYMOLOGY. Named for Mr. Michel BOUTET, Papara, Tahiti, who donated the holotype.

Genus: *Dermomurex* Monterosato, 1890 (new name for *Poweria* Monterosato, 1884, not Bonaparte, 1841).

Type species by monotypy: *Poweria scalarina* Bivona, 1832 (= *Murex scalaroides* Blainville, 1826).

***Dermomurex (Trialatella) trondleorum* n.sp.**

Figs. 7-8.

MATERIAL STUDIED: Holotype (17 x 9 mm) MNHN.

TYPE LOCALITY: Anaa Atoll, Tuamotu Archipelago, French Polynesia.

**DESCRIPTION.**

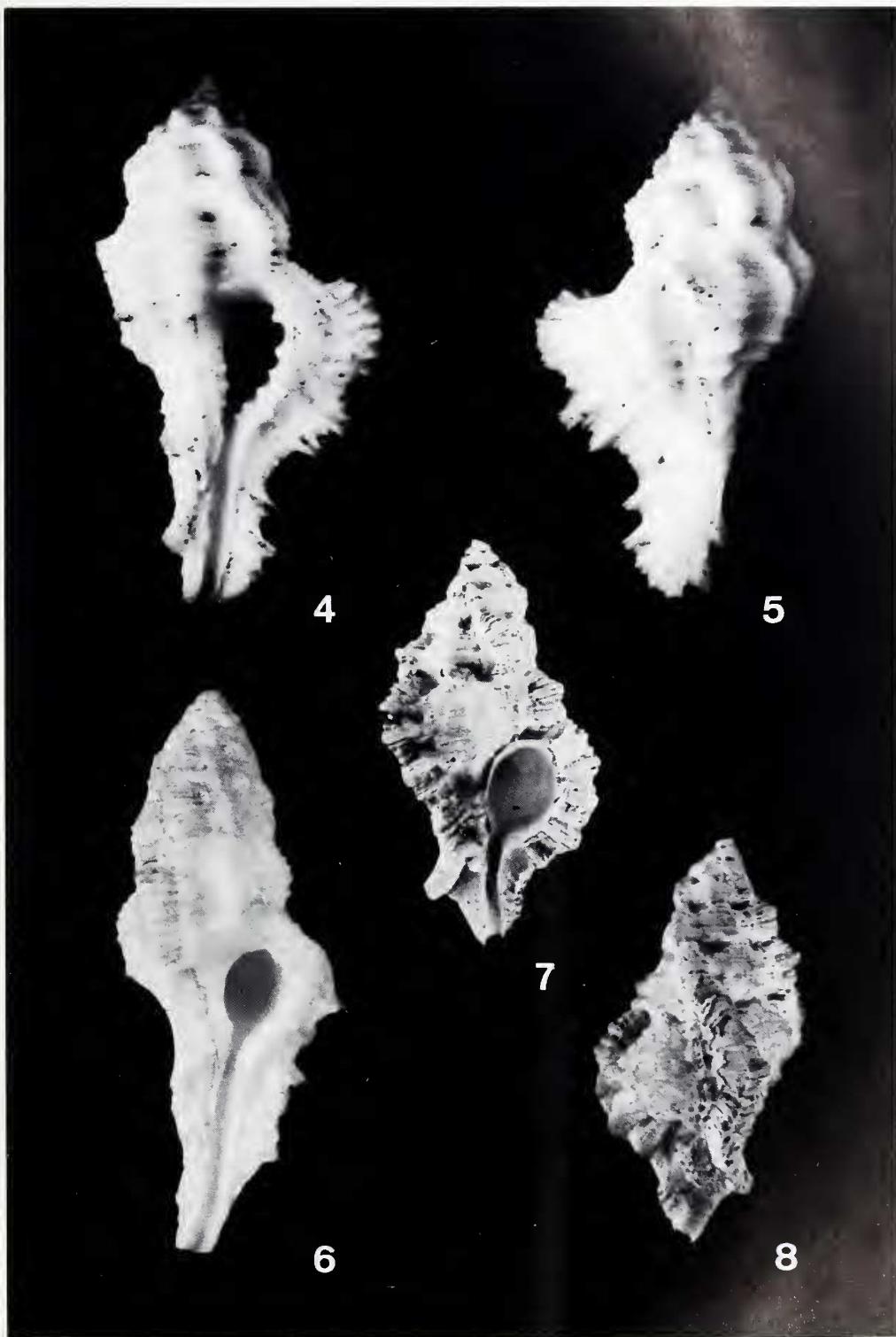
Shell medium-sized for the genus, holotype 17 mm in length, stout, tuberculate. Spire high, with 7 convex teleoconch whorls, protoconch unknown. Suture impressed, somewhat obscured by varices that connect previous whorl. Shell with 3 rounded, nodose and strong varices per whorl from second teleoconch whorl. Intervaricose axial sculpture of last whorl consisting of a single shallow node. Spiral sculpture of 4 irregular, nodulose primary cords, and numerous obscured, flattened, axially sculptured secondary cords (fig. 3). Primary cords forming prominent nodules on varices. Aperture small, ovate. Columellar lip smooth, rim slightly erect. Anal notch obsolete. Outer lip crenulate, weakly lirate for short distance within. Siphonal canal short, open and bent dorsally.

Figs. 4-6. *?Pterynotus bouteti* n.sp.

4-5. Holotype MNHN, 29.2 x 15.6 mm.

6. Paratype coll. J. Trondle, 37 mm.

Figs. 7-8. *Dermomurex (Trialatella) trondleorum* n.sp. Holotype MNHN, 17 x 9 mm.



Shell whitish, covered by a finely striate, whitish tritacalx, but damaged on the single holotype specimen.

Opercum and animal unknown.

**REMARKS.** Although known only from the holotype, *D. trondleorum* is well differentiated from hitherto known Indo-West Pacific species of *Dermomurex* (s. lat.). The other Pacific species of the subgenus *Triatella*, *D. (T.) neglecta* (Habe & Koseuge, 1971) (Philippine Islands), has a more delicate shell with 3 sharp, erratically placed varices on the last whorl, each earlier whorl with 6 or 7 varices. The sculpture of its shell is also different, being covered with numerous, similar fine threads.

*Dermomurex (Dermomurex) goldsteini* (Tenison-Woods, 1876), another somewhat related species (Vokes, 1985), has 6 varices on the last teleoconch whorl, and smoother spiral sculpture.

**ETYMOLOGY.** Named for Mr and Mrs Jean TRONDLE, La Force, France. J. Trondle donated the holotype.

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#### REFERENCE.

VOKES, E.H., 1985. The genus *Dermomurex* (Mollusca; Gastropoda) in Australia. *J. Malac. Soc. Aust.* 7 (1-2) : 45-65.

